



CMA PROGRESS AT A GLANCE

as of Oct. 23, 2008:

- **Anniston Chemical Activity, Ala.:** Anniston Chemical Agent Disposal Facility disposal operations resumed on Aug. 2. To date, 22,554 VX M23 land mines have been safely destroyed and 264,160 pounds of VX processed. Since disposal operations began on Aug. 9, 2003, Anniston Chemical Activity employees have emptied more than 92 storage igloos, reducing the stockpile by more than 50 percent.
- **Deseret Chemical Depot, Utah:** Tooele Chemical Agent Disposal Facility has safely disposed of 2,534 mustard agent-filled ton containers and 54,453 mustard agent-filled 155 mm projectiles. Mustard operations began in August 2006.
- **Newport Chemical Depot, Ind.:** Newport Chemical Agent Disposal Facility work force continues closure efforts, including operating the Drum Repack Facility. This facility safely repacks secondary waste for shipment off site.
- **Pine Bluff Arsenal, Ark.:** Pine Bluff Chemical Agent Disposal Facility is in a scheduled outage for changeover to mustard ton container disposal operations. Two Simulated Equipment Test Hardware (SETH) ton containers were prepared to use in testing the drain system. SETH ton containers are used to mock chemical weapons and ensure that processing equipment is ready for actual disposal operations. Systemization of the Automatic Continuous Air Monitoring Systems for mustard operations is more than 90 percent complete. Systemization refers to activities performed to ensure the equipment is functioning properly prior to disposal operations. The Metal Parts Furnace and the Liquid Incinerator are both at normal operating temperature.
- **Umatilla Chemical Depot, Ore.:** Umatilla Chemical Agent Disposal Facility continues processing VX land mines. This campaign is expected to be completed in November 2008, which will mark the total elimination of VX nerve agent in the Umatilla Chemical Depot stockpile. Mustard agent processing is planned to begin in spring 2009.

NEWPORT CEREMONY CELEBRATES ELIMINATION OF CHEMICAL STOCKPILE



Past Newport Chemical Depot Commanders attended the chemical stockpile elimination ceremony Oct. 25. (L to R) Col. Scott Kimmell, Lt. Col. Brian Lynch, current NECD Commander Lt. Col. William Hibner, Col. Christopher Isaacson (retired) and Col. Joseph Marquart.

A ceremony commemorating elimination of the chemical stockpile that was stored at Newport Chemical Depot was held Oct. 25 at South Vermillion High School in Clinton, Ind. The ceremony was hosted by the U.S. Army Chemical Materials Agency (CMA); Newport Chemical Depot (NECD), where workers monitored and guarded the stockpile; and the Newport Chemical Agent Disposal Facility (NECDF), where the employees neutralized the VX.

Workers at NECDF began destroying the stockpile on May 5, 2005, and the last batch was neutralized on August 8, 2008. Indiana is now the third site in the United States to completely eliminate its stockpile of chemical agent, following Johnston Atoll, a U.S. territory southwest of Hawaii, and Aberdeen Chemical Agent Disposal Facility in Maryland.

After an invocation by Ronald C. Henton, Mason & Hanger Vice President and General Manager, a welcome was provided by CMA Director Conrad F. Whyne. Mr. Whyne noted that the project's recordable injury rate (RIR) at the end of neutralization operations was 0.53, which is far less than the industry average of 4.6, or even the CMA average of 1.27. The RIR is the number of reportable injuries for every 200,000 hours worked.

Col. Robert B. Billington, Project Manager Chemical Stockpile Elimination, pointed out the decision to process hydrolysate,

the byproduct of VX neutralization, off site was complicated, but it proved to be the safest and most cost-effective option for Newport. He added that Newport shipped 424 truckloads of hydrolysate to Veolia Environmental Services in Port Arthur, Texas, without incident in nearly a year and a half.

Col. Billington commented, "I credit the workers and leadership at CMA, Parsons, Mason & Hanger, Veolia Environmental Services and Tri-State Motor Transit for remaining steadfast and working together to put safety first throughout this process."

Emphasizing the international importance of the facility's accomplishment, Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Army (Elimination of Chemical Weapons) Carmen J. Spencer said, "The example of the depot and NECDF in completing your missions is truly a model for the world to follow. As we share our destruction technology with the other signatory nations of the world, we will also be sharing the example of your work here."

Lt. Col. William D. Hibner shared a brief depot history and a member of the contract work force, Mona Harney, provided reflections on the local Chemical Stockpile Emergency Preparedness Program (CSEPP) community.

"Because of Newport Chemical Depot and CSEPP, this community is now better prepared to handle all types of emergencies," said Harney.



PROTECTING WILDLIFE AND THE ENVIRONMENT: ALL IN A DAY'S WORK AT UMCD

The U.S. Army Umatilla Chemical Depot (UMCD) and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) have partnered to build homes for Burrowing Owls on the depot in an effort to keep their population from declining. The Burrowing Owl is listed as a national "bird of conservation concern" in the United States, mainly due to their loss of habitat.

"Today's Army mission includes environmental protection in many forms," said Depot Commander Lt. Col. Bob Stein. "We protect the depot environment by not only keeping chemical agent safely contained, but by working with federal and state agencies to protect wildlife."

FWS biologists, UMCD environmental staff and volunteers used modern materials to build "owl condos." Each condo consists of a 55-gallon plastic barrel that is cut in half with a 5-gallon bucket glued on top. Matching holes are cut in both the barrel and the bucket to create a "tunnel"

for easy access to the underground burrow. Access is necessary to count birds or eggs, band chicks or clean out rodent remains. Since Burrowing Owls are highly susceptible to coyote predation, the condos are designed to be coyote-proof. This is achieved by attaching a pipe to the barrel that would be too small for coyotes to climb through, but large enough for the nine-and-a-half-inch owls.

"The owls seemed to like it right away," said Don Gillis, UMCD natural resources manager. "Within 24 hours one owl moved in – we nicknamed her Buffy – and within a few weeks we saw activity in 14 of the 18 condos."

The project's success, in part, stems from the volunteers who helped build the condos. The volunteers' rewards – the satisfaction of helping out Mother Nature and an owl condo named in their honor.



The first Burrowing Owl, nicknamed "Buffy" by depot Environmental staff, moved into an artificial burrow within a day. Buffy stands next to flex pipe entrance to an artificial burrow or "owl condo" at the Umatilla Chemical Depot. Photo courtesy of U.S. Army.

CMA SECURES LEADERS FOR TWO ASSIGNMENTS

The U.S. Army Chemical Materials Agency (CMA) recently welcomed its newest headquarters' members. Col. Raymond L. Naworol is now the Director of Stockpile Operations, providing leadership and direction to CMA commanders responsible for safe storage and facilitating destruction of the national chemical weapons stockpile. As a member of CMA's senior leadership team, Col. Naworol also oversees everyday activities of the various operational elements supporting overall mission execution.

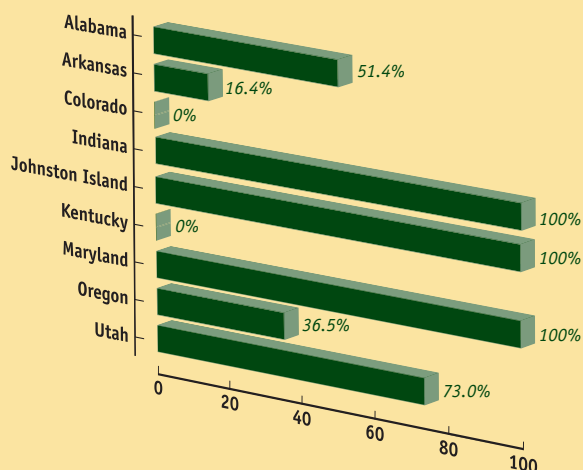
Col. Naworol's prior assignment was Chief of Staff and Director, Chemical and Biological Defense Requirements and Operations Integration in the Office of Secretary of Defense, Special Assistant, Chemical and Biological Defense and Chemical Demilitarization Programs.

In addition to Col. Naworol's appointment, Mr. Robert Q. Eldringhoff was named Chief of Staff. Mr. Eldringhoff has worked within CMA for more than five years. He has dealt with all aspects of

the agency including storage, demilitarization, non-stockpile and site/installation management.

Prior to his current position, Mr. Eldringhoff was the Director of Mission Support Directorate. His areas of responsibility included treaty, public works, logistics, materials management, integrated closure, transition planning, contract management and the information technology program.

CMA - CREATING A SAFER TOMORROW



55.1%

OF U.S. CHEMICAL AGENT STOCKPILE DESTROYED

(as of Oct. 29, measured by original agent tonnage since entry into force – April 29, 1997)

PBA DISPOSES OF ALARMS FROM DCD

Deseret Chemical Depot (DCD) transferred 51 M43A1 chemical agent detector alarms to the Pine Bluff Arsenal (PBA) for removal and disposition of a radioactive material (Americium 241) and final disposal of the equipment. The alarms, which were stored in a permitted igloo at DCD, were classified as hazardous waste by the state of Utah.

This safety project, ongoing for the past seven years, culminated with the development of a decontamination plan for the alarms to meet regulatory ground shipment standards so that they could be safely shipped to PBA.